



Office for Domestic Preparedness Domestic Preparedness Frequently Asked Questions

May 2004

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

FY 2004 Competitive Training Grants Program

Question: Are state and local jurisdictions eligible to apply for the Competitive Training Grants Program (CTGP) due to their nonprofit status?

Answer: Yes, state and local jurisdictions are eligible to apply. However, the competitive grants are not meant to augment funding for existing training at the local, state, or regional level, but to create a national training program that caters to issue areas identified in state strategies. Therefore, state and local entities may apply alone or in conjunction with a nonprofit, institution of higher education, or for-profit firm, but must do so with the understanding that the program must be nationwide in scope.

Question: What is the designated audience for the CTGP training?

Answer: The first responder community is clearly defined in Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8 and the Homeland Security Act. This community should serve as the primary audience for the nationwide training programs. However, several issue areas may include training the public at an awareness level. Training of this nature should take into account existing structures and programs focusing on citizens and partner accordingly. In other words, federal agencies and nonprofits are already actively engaged in public outreach. ODP's intent is not for grantees to replicate this training, but rather to fill in the gaps identified by the states in their needs assessments.

Question: Can a grantee apply under more than one issue area?

Answer: While we realize that many of the applicants will create courses that are cross-disciplined, the review panels are organized by issue area and therefore applicants must compete within one designated issue area EVEN if the grant application covers multiple disciplines.

Question: Can for-profit colleges and universities apply for this funding?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Can a single applicant submit multiple applications for the CTGP?

Answer: No, each applicant is limited to a single application under this grant.

Question: What costs are allowable under this grant?

Answer: The grant funding will cover both direct and indirect costs. There is no matching requirement for the grant, though the application must reflect a sustainable and comprehensive training program with a realistic budget narrative.

Question: How do I get help filing my grant application?

Answer: By calling the Grants Management System helpline at 1-888-549-9901. In consideration of the integrity of the competitive process, ODP will not assist with individual grant submissions.

Question: Can grant funding be used to pay a consultant or contractor?

Answer: Yes, this is considered an allowable cost under the grant program.

Question: Can grant funding be utilized for both development and delivery of courses?

Answer: Yes, the purpose of the CTGP is to fund new nationwide training programs to complement ODP's existing training deliveries. Grantees will deliver training content in various ways to meet the needs of responders nationwide in conjunction with ODP's existing training partners.

Question: Can various organizations partner to apply for funding and deliver training?

Answer: Yes. ODP encourages applicants to form working partnerships in order to ensure quality training for responders.

Question: Can applicants utilize online and distance learning as elements of their application?

Answer: Yes. ODP encourages blended learning initiatives and modules as vehicles for effective training delivery.